

Law
Firm
Partner
Moves
in
London

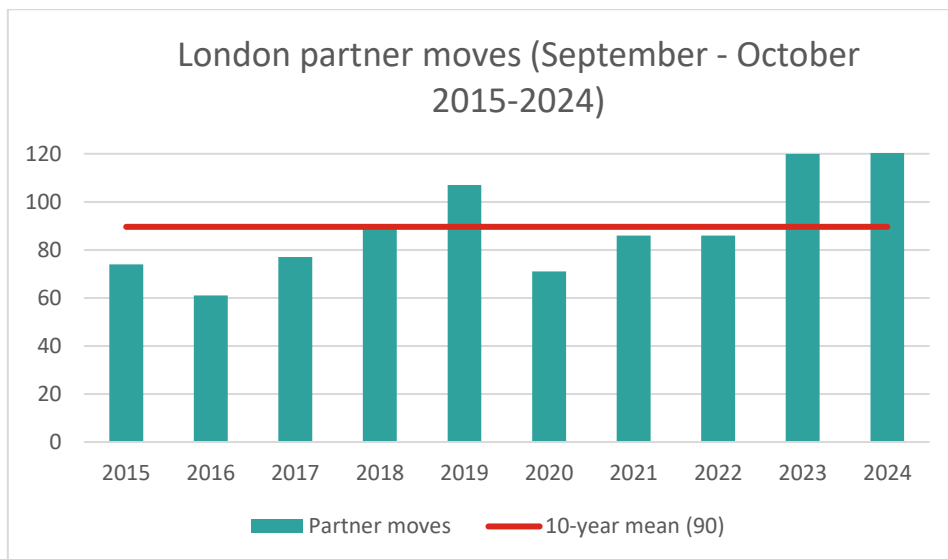
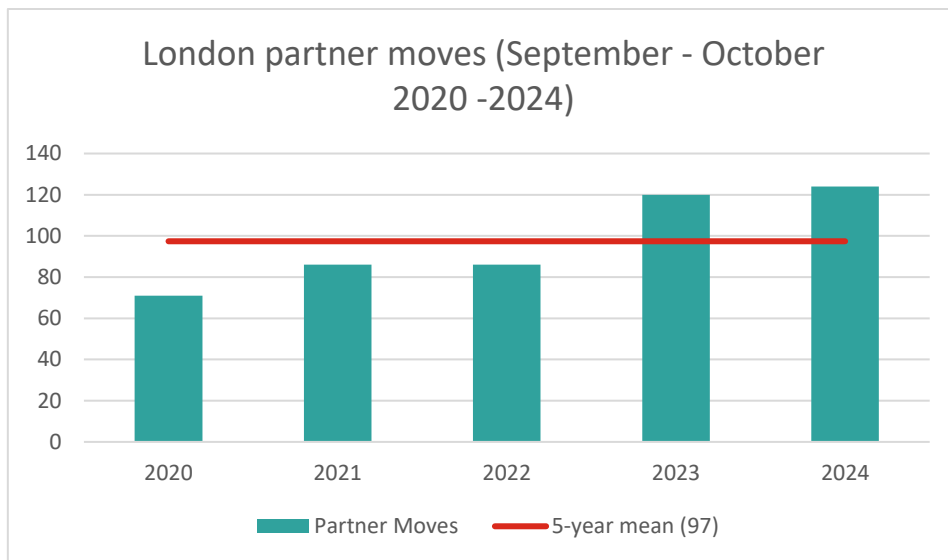
◆ September –
October 2024
Issue No. 83

Welcome to the 83rd edition of Law Firm Partner Moves in London, from the specialist partner team at Edwards Gibson, where we look back at announced partner-level recruitment activity in London over the past two months and give you a ‘who’s moved where’ update.

◆ **September – October 2024**

This bi-monthly round-up contains **124** partner moves – astonishingly **3%** up on the **120** we saw for the same period last year which was itself [sharply inflated by the final collapse of Axiom Ince](#); a 100 plus partner national law firm whose hapless London partners were forced to rapidly find new homes.

In keeping with the rest of 2024, partner recruitment remains at record levels - **27%** up on the cumulative five-year average (**97**); and **38%** up on the cumulative ten-year average of (**90**) for the same period.



The most coveted firm this edition was Bristol headquartered firm **TLT** which hired eight partners, followed by **Eversheds Sutherland** which welcomed five. Next up were **Addleshaw Goddard**, **Cooley**, **Fox Williams**, **Howard Kennedy**, **Hunton Andrews Kurth** and **Mishcon de Reya** which hired four partners apiece, then **Goodwin**, **Greenberg Traurig**, **McDermott Will & Emery** and **Morgan Lewis** which all hired three.

◆ **Top partner recruiters in London September – October 2024**

• TLT Solicitors	8	(8 laterals)
• Eversheds Sutherland	5	(3 laterals)
• Addleshaw Goddard	4	(2 laterals)
• Cooley	4	(4 laterals)
• Fox Williams	4	(3 laterals)
• Howard Kennedy	4	(2 laterals)
• Hunton Andrews Kurth	4	(4 laterals)
• Mishcon de Reya	4	(1 lateral)
• Goodwin	3	(3 laterals)
• Greenberg Traurig	3	(2 laterals)
• McDermott Will & Emery	3	(3 laterals)
• Morgan Lewis	3	(2 laterals)

In addition, seventeen firms, hired two partners each: **A&O Shearman, Covington & Burling**, **Cravath**, **DLA Piper**, **Fladgate**, **Gowling WLG**, **King & Spalding**, **Kirkland & Ellis**, **Latham & Watkins**, **Mayer Brown**, **Mills & Reeve**, **Paul Weiss**, **Pinsent Masons**, **Shoosmiths**, **Sidley Austin**, **Simmons & Simmons** and **Weil**.

BDB Pitmans saw the highest attrition this edition, haemorrhaging nine laterals - eight to TLT and one to Mills & Reeve. Two firms saw the departure of four serving partners: **DLA Piper** (two to Goodwin, one to Dechert and one to Pinsent Masons); and **EY Law** (two to Hunton Andrews Kurth, one to Ashfords and one to Ashurst). Four firms lost three partners: **CMS** (to Gowling WLG, Jones Day and McDermott Will & Emery); **Eversheds Sutherland** (to McDermott Will & Emery, Norton Rose Fulbright and Simmons & Simmons); **Kirkland & Ellis** (two to Paul Weiss and one to Addleshaw Goddard); and **Orrick** (to Addleshaw Goddard, Alston & Bird and Goodwin).

◆ **Firms with largest attrition in September – October 2024 (partnership to partnership moves only)**

- **BDB Pitmans** 9
- **DLA Piper** 4
- **EY Law** 4
- **CMS** 3
- **Eversheds Sutherland** 3
- **Kirkland & Ellis** 3
- **Orrick** 3



◆ **Team hires September – October 2024**

The most sizeable multi-partner team move this edition was Bristol headquartered **TLT's** hire of an eight-partner infrastructure planning and real estate team from BDB Pitmans. The team, which is a leader in the planning and public law aspects of major infrastructure developments, comprises a real estate lateral and septet of planners - two of whom have the rare distinction of being “*Roll A Parliamentary Agents*” authorised to promote and oppose hybrid and private bills in Parliament.

In addition, seven firms hired two partner teams: **A&O Shearman** (private equity from Sidley Austin); **Cravath** (leveraged finance from Linklaters); **Fox Williams** (employment from Deloitte Legal); **Goodwin** (real estate and sports finance from DLA Piper); **Hunton Andrews Kurth** (which hired two separate two-partner finance teams - an asset finance duo from EY law and a project finance duo from Morgan Lewis); **Paul Weiss** (financial services regulatory from Kirkland & Ellis); and **Sidley Austin** (high yield from Latham & Watkins).

◆ **Dickson Minto Fight(s) Club Back ...**

This edition sees an incredibly rare lateral hire by clandestine Scottish private equity boutique **Dickson Minto** which, following [Milbank Tweed's \(almost\) lock, stock, and barrel acquisition of its London office in 2022](#), has quietly re-spawned its City offering with an unspecified number of internal transfers, but has now augmented these with a real estate partner from Walker Morris in Leeds. Both the lateral hire and the practice area is inconsistent with the secretive Caledonian outfit of old, and it is unknown if this signals a wider change of direction for the firm in London – we'd ask, but as every commentator knows, *"the first rule of Dickson Minto is that you don't talk about Dickson Minto"*.



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◆ **London's New York Law Firm Carousel**

As usual, this round-up sees US founded law firms continue to dominate much of the upper echelons of the partner hire market and, whilst this edition is no exception, it is notable just how much once highly conservative New Yorkers feature - both winning and losing laterals.

New York firms featured in this edition include: **Cadwalader**, which makes a vertical partner hire of a Slaughter and May associate; **Cahill**, which after being cut to the quick following a series of high-profile defections to rivals, hires a US capital markets lateral from Clifford Chance; **Curtis**, which admittedly is an atypical New York firm but which nonetheless hires a finance/DCM partner from Katten; **Cravath** which, following its dramatic [launch into English law last year](#) with a two-partner leveraged finance team from legacy Shearman & Sterling, poaches another two-partner leveraged finance team from Linklaters; **Debevoise & Plimpton** which welcomes a private equity lateral from Goodwin; **Paul Weiss**,

which, in what has become something of a Big Law cliché, continues its more than year-long rolling raid on Kirkland & Ellis totting-up its 14th and 15th hires from its Chicago rival in as many months by adding a two-partner financial services regulatory team; **Proskauer Rose**, which hires a disputes lateral from fellow New Yorker **Fried Frank**; and **Weil**, which adds a private credit lawyer from in-house, and a private funds vertical from Cleary Gottlieb.

On the flip side **Davis Polk** - that whitest of white shoe Wall Street outfits- loses its first ever London lateral to another law firm as Los Angeles-born Paul Hastings swipes an equity capital markets partner from its Manhattan rival just months after itself [losing a leveraged finance partner to Davis Polk](#).

◆ Other Fun Facts September – October 2024

- **30%** of moves this edition were female (**37**).
- **8** firms hired from in-house or business: **Covington & Burling** (from the Information Commissioner’s Office), **Fieldfisher** (from Cred22), **Fladgate** (from Accel), **Greenberg Traurig** (from the Competition and Markets Authority), **Kirkland & Ellis** (from Harvey), **Mayer Brown** (from Legal & General), **Mishcon de Reya** (from Hatch) and **Weil** (from PSP Investments).
- **29%** of all moves (**36**) were moves from non-partnership roles (either moves from in-house or non-partners elevated to partnership upon moving from another law firm).

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to discuss this article or any other aspect of the market in more depth.

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Please click [here](#) to understand our methodology for compiling Partner Moves

✦ **A&O Shearman**

In a swipe at Sidley Austin, the newly merged firm adds a two-person private equity team comprising **Paul Dunbar** and **Dan Graham**; this is not the pair's first move together, they swapped Vinson & Elkins for Sidley Austin in [August 2021](#). Dunbar and Graham advise on a wide range of corporate private equity matters including M&A, joint ventures and leveraged buy-outs.

✦ **Addleshaw Goddard**

Four hires (three laterals and one vertical) for the international firm as it welcomes: IP disputes specialist **Geoff Steward** from Cambridge brand management boutique Stobbs IP, where he was head of litigation; restructuring lawyer **Scott Morrison** from Orrick; corporate lateral **Sharon Skipper-Gordon** from Kirkland & Ellis; and property litigation specialist **Katie Dunn** from Hogan Lovells, where she was a senior associate. Steward, who will be joint head of IP at his new firm, focuses on IP litigation with a particular angle in the retail and consumer sectors. Morrison advises lenders and borrowers on financings, financial restructurings, insolvencies and work-outs. Skipper covers large and upper-mid market private equity deals. Dunn specialises in contentious real estate matters, largely covering property management and landlord and tenant issues.

✦ **Alston & Bird**

The Atlanta headquartered outfit adds privacy and cyber disputes lateral **Kelly Hagedorn** from Orrick. Hagedorn covers data protection, regulatory enforcement, privacy litigation and cyber incident response.

✦ **Ashfords**

A corporate lateral for the Exeter headquartered firm as it welcomes **Sam Brown** from EY Law. Brown focuses on venture and growth capital fundraisings, M&A, private equity, joint ventures and equity incentivisation.

✦ **Ashurst**

Making the switch to the international firm is technology lateral **Fiona Ghosh** from EY law. Ghosh focuses on digital economy and fintech matters, specialising in alternative payment solutions.

✦ **Bird & Bird**

The technology focused outfit elevates tax lawyer **Jesse Dalton** from DLA Piper, where he was a legal director. Dalton, who has a focus on the technology-sector, advises on tax relating to M&A, finance, intra-group reorganisations and structuring of commercial transactions.

✦ **Cahill**

After a stream of high-profile departures, the elite New Yorker restocks with US capital markets specialist **Andrew Kelly** from Clifford Chance. New York qualified Kelly focuses on capital raising transactions, including debt securities and syndicated loans, but has a particular focus on high yield debt securities.

✦ **Cadwalader**

The New York firm elevates litigation lawyer **Tom Grodecki** from Slaughter and May, where he was an associate. Grodecki covers a broad spectrum of disputes including civil and criminal litigation, as well as contentious regulatory matters.

✦ **Charles Russell Speechlys**

Corporate tax lateral **James Stewart** makes the switch to the City firm from London media and technology boutique Sheridans. Stewart, who is also a chartered tax adviser, covers a mix of corporate, real estate and indirect tax matters.

✦ **Cooley**

A quartet of laterals for the Silicon Valley technology specialist as, following the [departure of a three-partner venture capital team to Akin](#) in July, it restocks *mutatis mutandis* with three corporate hires: **Angus Miln** from Taylor Wessing, **Helen Pantelides** from White & Case and **Ali**

Ramadan from Goodwin; and welcomes life sciences lawyer **Jenny Davies** from Gowling WLG. Miln, Pantelides and Ramadan advise on venture capital, growth, and crossover investments in the technology and life sciences sectors. Davies, who was head of life sciences at her former firm, covers patents, dispute resolution and transactions ranging from strategic licensing to collaborations and regulatory matters.

✦ **Covington & Burling**

Two new hires for the Washington DC headquartered firm: it launches a new London practice area with the hire of litigation lateral **Sonia Campbell** from Mishcon de Reya where she was head of insurance disputes; and welcomes competition lawyer **Claudia Berg** from the Information Commissioner’s Office (IOC) where she was general counsel. Campbell acts for policyholders in insurance-related coverage disputes. Berg, who prior to her stint at the ICO worked for the CMA as a senior legal director of antitrust enforcement, will bolster the firm’s expertise in antitrust, tech, regulation and privacy.

✦ **Cravath**

Doubling down ... Following its [dramatic launch into English law last year](#) with a two-partner leveraged finance team from legacy Shearman & Sterling, the usually uber conservative New Yorker poaches another two-partner leveraged finance team comprising laterals **Chris Medley** and **Rohan Saha** from Linklaters. The pair, both Linklaters “lifers” specialise in lender-side acquisition finance acting for investment banks and direct lenders on cross-border debt financings, refinancings and restructurings.

✦ **Curtis**

The atypical New Yorker welcomes finance lateral **Chris Harrison** from Katten. Harrison advises on debt capital markets, leveraged finance and other debt finance transactions with a particular angle

in the energy, extractive industry and life science sectors.

✦ **DAC Beachcroft**

The national firm elevates litigation lawyer **Nora Fredstie** from White & Case, where she was a senior associate. Fredstie focuses on international investment arbitration.

✦ **Debevoise & Plimpton**

The New York firm welcomes corporate lateral **James Grimwood** from Goodwin. Grimwood, whose move follows that of private funds lateral **Shawn D’Aguiar** [reported earlier this year](#), specialises in private equity encompassing M&A, leveraged buyouts, joint ventures, and corporate reorganizations.

✦ **Dechert**

A finance hire for the global firm as it adds funds finance specialist **Anthony Lombardi** from DLA Piper. Lombardi advises alternative funds, family offices and high net worth individuals on fund finance matters as well as structured finance and debt capital markets transactions.

✦ **Dentons**

Prodigal son... the international verein welcomes back financial services regulatory lateral **Andrew Barber** from Pinsent Masons; he last worked at Dentons in 2014 when he was a managing associate at the firm. Barber covers retail banking and consumer finance acting for banks, insurers, investment firms, fund managers and consumer finance businesses.

✦ **Dickson Minto**

Following the “closure” of its London office [in 2022](#), the clandestine Scottish private equity boutique makes a rare lateral hire welcoming direct real estate lateral **Jeremy Moore** from Walker Morris, where he was head of real estate. Moore’s hire is pitched to better position Dickson

Minto on the real estate aspects of its corporate transactions.

✦ **DLA Piper**

Two laterals for the global firm which welcomes back cybersecurity specialist **Simon Persoff** from Clifford Chance, and also adds projects lawyer **Nikhil Markanday** from King & Spalding. Persoff, who was a senior consultant at the firm before his move to Clifford Chance, specialises in data protection and cyber security as well as a variety of contentious data issues. Markanday covers project development and financing of energy and infrastructure projects in Europe and the Middle East.

✦ **DWF**

International arbitration and disputes specialist **Poupak Anjomshoaa** makes the switch to the once-listed, now private equity owned, firm from emerging markets boutique Trinity International. Anjomshoaa primarily advises on emerging market commercial arbitrations in the energy, construction, petrochemicals, infrastructure and mining sectors.

✦ **Eversheds Sutherland**

A quintet of new faces (three laterals and two verticals) for the Anglo-American outfit, as it adds a new antitrust head **Lambros Kilaniotis** from Quinn Emanuel, where he was co-head of the UK competition practice; **Joaquin “Jack” Terceño** from Freshfields’ Tokyo office, where he was head of disputes and international arbitration; tax litigator **Robert Waterson** from RPC; and two real estate verticals - **Rob Donell** from Clifford Chance and **Claire Haley** from Goodwin, both former senior associates. Kilaniotis, who will head the competition litigation practice at Eversheds, focuses on cartel disputes and market investigations alongside other areas of competition litigation. Dual English and New York qualified Terceño specialises in international arbitration across a range of sectors. Waterson, who joins as head of tax disputes, covers both

direct and indirect contentious tax, public law and regulatory investigations. Donell advises on direct real estate with an angle on infrastructure involving telecommunications and data centres. Haley focuses on real estate investment encompassing acquisitions and disposals; development funding and sale and leaseback matters.

✦ **Farrer & Co**

The London firm elevates international arbitration and disputes lawyer **Jehad Mustafa** from boutique public international law firm Volterra Fietta, where he was a senior associate. Mustafa covers both national and international disputes, working on state and diplomatic immunity, investor-state arbitration and state-to-state disputes.

✦ **Fieldfisher**

Dual French and English qualified finance lawyer **Laetitia Costa** arrives at the European firm from financing brokerage platform Cred22, which she founded in 2022. Costa, a former partner at Milbank, PwC Legal and Avonhurst, advises on leveraged finance, debt finance and restructurings.

✦ **Fladgate**

Two additions for the London firm as it welcomes disputes lateral **Matthew Akers** from DMH Stallard and in-house corporate lawyer **Janine Suttie** from venture capital firm Accel, where she was senior legal counsel. Akers covers a wide range of commercial and contract disputes including, fraud, shareholder conflicts, and insolvency-related matters. Suttie focuses on venture and growth capital transactions.

✦ **Forsters**

The Mayfair firm welcomes its new head of immigration, **Tracy Evlogidis**, from Withers where she was also head of immigration. Evlogidis advises on the full range of immigration issues including citizenship and residency

matters; she also regularly works with the Home Office on policy and legislation.

✦ **Fox Williams**

Four hires (three laterals and a vertical) for the City firm as it welcomes: a two-partner employment team from Deloitte Legal comprising Deloitte's head of employment - **David Williams** - and **Marian Bloodworth**; real estate lateral **Alison Ramsey** from West End property firm Stepien Lake; and structured finance lawyer **Ed Bellamy** from Dentons, where he was a counsel. Williams and Bloodworth both advise on a mix of contentious and non-contentious employment matters with Williams having a particular angle on the technology sector and Bloodworth the financial services sector. Ramsey covers an eclectic mix of commercial property matters including investments, developments and landlord and tenant matters. Bellamy advises on a range of structured products with a particular focus on public and private securitisations.

✦ **Goodwin**

Three hires for the Boston-spawned set-up as it double dips in the DLA Piper partner pot to poach finance laterals **Paul Gray** and **Lewis Gaut**; and welcomes employee benefits specialist **Anna Humphrey** from Orrick. Gray, who becomes head of real estate finance at his new firm, and Gaut predominately advise on a mix of structured real estate finance and sports finance matters, often with a leveraged finance gloss. Humphrey advises on employee benefit trusts, employment tax and on incentives issues including in relation to M&A and other corporate transactions and restructurings.

✦ **Gowling WLG**

Two hires for the Anglo-Canadian firm as it welcomes privacy lateral **Loretta Pugh** from CMS; and elevates corporate energy lawyer **Will Glover** from Eversheds, where he was a principal associate. Pugh, who will co-lead the data

protection and cyber security practice, specialises in data protection, information governance and cybersecurity. Glover covers M&A and joint ventures within the energy and infrastructure sectors.

✦ **Greenberg Traurig**

A trio of new faces for the Global Top 20 firm as it welcomes: private equity specialist **Sava Savov** from European firm Kinstellar; corporate tax lateral **Alex Tostevin** from Dentons; and competition lawyer **Manish Das** from the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA), where he was a legal director. Savov covers private equity and special situations advising on acquisitions and disposals, platform formations and investments. Tostevin advises on an eclectic range of direct and indirect tax with a focus on the private equity sector. Whilst Das' most recent experience at the CMA was focused on enforcement and policy, he has experience in all aspects of anti-trust.

✦ **Hamblins**

The West End firm elevates commercial litigation émigré **Giles Bright** from now defunct London law firm Bankside Commercial, where he was a director. Bright advises on an eclectic range of commercial disputes.

✦ **Harneys**

Finance lateral **James Kinsley** makes the switch from the Jersey office of fellow offshore firm Carey Olsen. Kinsley advises on the off-shore law aspects (including Cayman and BVI) of debt finance and restructurings for financial institutions, sovereign wealth funds, private equity funds and family offices.

✦ **Hausfeld**

The claimant focused US disputes boutique adds litigation lateral **Greg Lascelles** from Covington & Burling. Lascelles' disputes practice covers civil fraud, negligence, guarantees and indemnities,

directors liability, M&A disputes and data breach issues.

◆ **Hogan Lovells**

In a vertical hire the global firm elevates finance lawyer **Alex Parkhouse** from Linklaters where he was counsel. New York qualified Parkhouse covers corporate and capital markets transactions, including US securities, as well as SEC-registered deal execution and compliance; his hire is part of a cross-jurisdictional team move also involving a lateral partner move between the two firms in Madrid.

◆ **Howard Kennedy**

Four hires (two lateral and two vertical) for the London firm as it welcomes: finance lawyer **Marc Naidoo** from McGuireWoods; commercial property lateral **Ellis Gardner-Browne** from Shoosmiths; litigation lawyer **Heidi Walsh** from Mishcon de Reya, where she was a senior associate; and contentious insolvency specialist **Crispin Daly** from Paul Hastings, where he was an associate. South African qualified Naidoo covers emerging markets, ESG and sustainable finance. Gardner-Browne advises on commercial property matters with a particular angle in the retail, leisure and petrol forecourt space. Walsh covers international arbitration; she focuses on oil and gas, telecoms, shareholder and investor disputes. Daly advises on a wide range of contentious insolvency matters.

◆ **Hunton Andrews Kurth**

Two pair! The Virginia headquartered firm continues its London re-boot by hiring two separate two-partner finance teams as it welcomes: project finance laterals **Ayesha Waheed** and **Seyfi Can Kandemir** from Morgan Lewis; and asset finance duo **Alan Cunningham** and **Richard Skipper** from EY Law. Waheed and

Kandemir advise developers and lenders on project financings in the energy, infrastructure and natural resource sectors. Cunningham and Skipper cover a broad range of predominately asset financings encompassing aviation, shipping, rail, defence, automotive and energy.

◆ **Irwin Mitchell**

Dual English and German qualified corporate lawyer **Ute Mueller** decamps to the national firm from Duane Morris. Mueller advises on M&A, joint ventures and commercial contracts, with a particular niche in the Anglo-German market.

◆ **Jones Day**

IP disputes lateral **Toby Sears** makes the switch to the US leviathan from CMS. Sears principally advises technology and life sciences clients on a range of predominately contentious IP matters with a focus on patent litigation.

◆ **Kennedys**

Data and cyber lateral **Nathalie Moreno** arrives at the insurance flavoured outfit from Addleshaw Goddard. Dual English and French qualified, Moreno advises on cyber security and data protection issues under English and French law, with a particular focus on EU law issues.

◆ **King & Spalding**

Two vertical hires for the Atlanta headquartered outfit as it elevates: technology and intellectual property lawyer **Eve-Christie Vermynck** from Skadden, where she was a counsel; and financial services regulatory lawyer **Konstantin (Costa) Burkov** from Paul Hastings, where he was senior associate. Triple New York, French and English qualified, Vermynck advises on AI, data protection, cybersecurity and intellectual property matters. Burkov covers EU and UK financial services regulatory and compliance matters.

✦ **Kirkland & Ellis**

Two hires for the Chicago-spawned powerhouse as it launches a London structured finance practice with **Suril Patel** from generative AI company Harvey, where he was one time VP of partnerships; and elevates tax lawyer **Amy Francis** from Goodwin, where she was an associate. Patel, who was formerly a partner at Allen & Overy, focuses on CLOs and other structured credit matters including private credit securitizations and insurance solutions. Francis, who joined in July, advises on all aspects of UK and international taxation, with particular emphasis on corporate, real estate and financial transactions.

✦ **Latham & Watkins**

A brace of laterals for the expansive global firm as it adds: corporate lawyer **Melanie Howard** from Baker McKenzie; and corporate tax specialist **Simon Skinner** from Travers Smith, where he was head of tax. Howard specialises in M&A with a focus on the financial services and healthcare sectors. Skinner has a particular angle on the private equity sector, covering both corporate and individual taxation matters.

✦ **Lewis Silkin**

Employment lawyer **David Regan** arrives at the London firm from Squire Patton Boggs where he was a director. Regan advises on both contentious and non-contentious UK and international employment matters, acting for both employers and employees.

✦ **Macfarlanes**

Freshfields corporate real estate savant **Victoria Hills** defects to the elite London pocket battleship. Hills specialises in private capital advising on private equity, M&A and joint venture transactions in the real estate and hotels sectors.

✦ **Maples**

The Cayman headquartered firm welcomes a new global head of trusts and private client as it adds

lateral **Nicholas Holland** from McDermott Will & Emery. Holland, who has previously worked in the Cayman Islands, advises on trusts and estate matters - particularly those with an offshore angle.

✦ **Mayer Brown**

Two insurance flavoured lawyers join the global firm this edition in the form of: **Tom MacAulay** from Legal & General, where he was structuring and execution director; and **George Belcher** from Skadden, where he was a counsel. MacAulay advises on a range of corporate and commercial, M&A, and insurance-related transactions, including pension de-risking and related reinsurance. Belcher covers insurance-related M&A, as well as regulatory issues across the sector.

✦ **McDermott Will & Emery**

Three laterals for the Chicago founded firm as it bags: private equity lawyer **Jason Zimmel** from CMS, where he was co-head of private equity; corporate tax savant **Candice Nichol** from KPMG; and infrastructure/ data centre specialist **Sebastien Bonneau** from Eversheds Sutherland, where he was global co-head of digital infrastructure. Zimmel is largely private equity focused but also acts on a range of more general M&A matters. Nichol covers all aspects of corporate tax, with a particular angle on private equity and alternative funds related matters. Bonneau, who is dual English and French qualified, advises on corporate infrastructure transactions with a strong sub-specialism in data centres.

✦ **Mills & Reeve**

A pair of laterals for the Cambridge spawned national firm as it adds: real estate lawyer **Paddy Lynam** from BDB Pitmans; and construction insurance disputes lateral **Eileen Pathiraja** from Beale & Co. Lynam focuses on agricultural real estate on both the commercial and residential sides, as well as broader agricultural and private

client law matters. Pathiraja primarily advises on construction related professional indemnity disputes.

◆ **Mishcon de Reya**

A quartet of new faces for the London firm as it welcomes: planning specialist **Nicholle Kingsley** from Pinsent Masons; corporate lawyer **Chris Driscoll** from (slightly confusingly) Hatch or Hatchling Law Ltd, where he was the founder; private funds lawyer **Steven Haywood** from McDermott Will & Emery, where he was a counsel; and employment lawyer **Mark Kaye** from BCLP, where he was a senior associate. Kingsley's planning expertise covers strategic advice on large-scale mixed-use developments, regeneration projects, and public-private partnerships. Driscoll, who is New York and California qualified, represents startups and entrepreneurs on a wide variety of US venture capital and commercial matters. Haywood advises on the structuring and formation of private investment funds across multiple sectors. Kaye focuses on transactional, non-contentious and advisory employment matters, with a particular angle on those with a US element.

◆ **Morgan Lewis**

Three life science flavoured hires for the US firm as it adds: two contentious IP laterals - **Hiroshi Sheraton** from Baker McKenzie; and the eponymous **Tim Powell** of Powell Gilbert, who re-emerges after his exit last year from the leading IP boutique he co-founded; and corporate lawyer **Luciana Griebel** from Covington & Burling, where she was a senior associate. Both Sheraton and Gilbert advise on multi-jurisdictional patent litigation and contentious IP matters predominately for life science and technology clients, with Sheraton also covering trademark disputes. Griebel assists pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical device companies on corporate transactions including M&A, joint ventures and minority investments.

◆ **Norton Rose Fulbright**

The global verein poaches corporate insurance lateral **Adriana Cotter** from Eversheds Sutherland. Cotter advises insurers, re-insurers and intermediaries on transactional, regulatory and commercial matters within the insurance sector.

◆ **Paul Hastings**

Counter strike! ... having lost a leveraged finance lateral to Davis Polk [in May](#), the West Coast firm returns fire by poaching corporate lateral **Dan Hirschovits** from its New York rival. Hirschovits advises on equity capital markets transactions with a focus on initial public offerings, secondary offerings and private placements.

◆ **Paul Weiss**

Continuing its more than year-long rolling raid on Kirkland & Ellis, the new apex predator welcomes a two-partner financial services regulatory team from its rival comprising: **Prem Mohan**, who becomes Paul Weiss' new head of European financial services regulation, and **Revathi Raghavan**. The duo advise on the structuring and formation of private investment funds along with the regulatory aspects of M&A and private equity transactions.

◆ **Penningtons Manches**

The London and South-East focused firm adds aviation and aerospace specialist **Patrick Slomski** from Clyde & Co. Slomski covers both contentious and non-contentious matters with a particular angle on insurance and reinsurance disputes.

◆ **Pinsent Masons**

Following the departure of a three-partner construction disputes/ international arbitration team to Greenberg Traurig ([reported in our last edition](#)) the international firm re-stocks *mutatis mutandis*: with laterals **Edward Shaw** from DLA Piper; and **James Cameron** from construction boutique Fenwick Elliot. Both Shaw and Cameron

cover construction and engineering disputes and related international arbitration, in the infrastructure, transport, power, energy, water and heavy engineering sectors.

◆ **Proskauer Rose**

Disputes barrister **James Kitching** arrives at the US firm from fellow New Yorker Fried Frank. Kitching advises on a mix of high court commercial litigation, international arbitration, white-collar crime, investigations and compliance monitoring matters.

◆ **Quillon Law**

Covington & Burling's co-head of white-collar defence and commercial litigation - **Ian Hargreaves** - defects to the litigation boutique. Hargreaves covers a wide range of disputes including civil fraud, commercial litigation, corporate crime and investigations.

◆ **Sackers**

The pensions boutique adds lateral **Andy Lewis** from Travers Smith. Lewis advises trustees and sponsors of large pension funds around both defined benefit and defined contribution schemes, with an additional angle on ESG; diversity and inclusion within the pensions sector.

◆ **Shoosmiths**

Two hires for the national firm as it welcomes: data and privacy specialist **Kate Brimsted** from BCLP, where she was the UK lead for data privacy and security; and restructuring specialist **Jonathan Dunkley** from Womble Bond Dickinson, where he was head of restructuring. Brimsted covers data privacy, information and cybersecurity matters across a range of sectors including financial services, fintech, technology, real estate and infrastructure. Dunkley advises stakeholders on all aspects of non-contentious restructuring and insolvency.

◆ **Sidley Austin**

Double tap ... following its raid on Latham & Watkins for a [five-partner leveraged finance team in August](#), the Chicago outfit returns to Latham for a two-partner high-yield team comprising Illinois qualified **Scott Colwell** and New York qualified **Patrick Kwak**. The duo advise issuers and underwriters on international capital markets, corporate finance, and securities regulation, with a focus on high-yield debt securities offerings.

◆ **Simmons & Simmons**

A brace of laterals for the City stalwart as it bags: contentious IP specialist **Joel Smith** from Hogan Lovells; and digital infrastructure lateral **Walter Kulvik** from Eversheds Sutherland. Smith focuses on contentious matters relating to trade-marks, copyright and trade secrets. Kulvik advises on corporate transactions covering digital infrastructure including subsea and terrestrial fibre optic cables, data centres and telecoms assets.

◆ **Squire Patton Boggs**

A corporate hire for the international verein as it elevates **Ben Morgan** who re-emerges after leaving Goodwin, where he was a counsel, in April this year. Morgan focuses on equity capital markets encompassing IPOs, secondary offerings, block trades and public M&A transactions.

◆ **Steptoe**

The US firm elevates competition lawyer **Ronan Scanlan** from Arthur Cox in Dublin, where he was of counsel. Scanlan who is English and Irish qualified, advises on all aspects of UK and EU competition law, including antitrust, abuse of dominance, competition litigation, merger control, regulatory appeals and state aid.

✦ **Stewarts**

Joining the insolvency and asset recovery team at the litigation boutique is insolvency-focused lateral **Tom Clark** from London firm iLaw. Clark covers a range of disputes with a focus on insolvency, asset recovery and fraud related litigation.

✦ **Taylor Wessing**

In a vertical hire, the international firm elevates financial services lawyer **Martin Dowdall** from Sidley Austin, where he was a senior managing associate. Dowdall advises on non-contentious financial services regulatory matters with a focus on payments and fintech.

✦ **TLT**

An exodus from BDB Pitmans as Bristol headquartered TLT adds an eight-partner infrastructure planning and real estate team comprising: planning laterals: **Nick Evans**, who was the head of planning at BDB, **Sarah Clark**, **Tom Henderson**, **Mustafa Latif-Aramesh**, **Richard Marsh**, **Duncan O'Connor** and **Angus Walker**; along with real estate development specialist **James Ross**. The septet of planners advise on the planning and public law aspects of major infrastructure developments, with Evans and Latif-Aramesh having the rare distinction of being parliamentary agents authorised to promote and oppose hybrid and private bills in Parliament.

✦ **Trowers & Hamlins**

Private client lateral **Simon Gibb** is welcomed by the international firm from McDermott Will & Emery. Gibb focuses on private wealth, advising families, individuals and trustees on UK tax, HMRC audits, disclosure regimes and international trust and estate planning.

✦ **Weightmans**

The insurance flavoured outfit hires environment lawyer **Aidan Thomson** from BCLP, where he was

onetime head of environmental law. Thomson will focus on ESG and environment-related insurance issues including environmental liability and compliance.

✦ **Weil**

Two hires for the New York firm which adds: finance lawyer **Nicola Noël** from Canadian pension investment manager PSP, where she was a senior director; and private funds lawyer **Sophie Smith** from Cleary Gottlieb, where she was a counsel. Noël a private credit specialist, advises across the capital structure. Smith acts for private sponsors across various asset classes focusing on fund formation matters.

✦ **Wiggin**

Sports law lateral **David Hinchliffe** arrives at the media boutique from Walker Morris in Leeds. Hinchliffe focuses on a variety of sports law matters – including M&A transactions, litigation and niche regulatory issues, particularly in the field of soccer.

✦ **Wilson Sonsini**

The Silicon Valley tech disruptor elevates tax lawyer **Emma Game** from Slaughter and May where she was a senior counsel. Game's experience covers both standalone and transactional corporate tax (including M&A, joint ventures, demergers and IPOs) with an additional angle on pension taxation and funding.

[Edwards Gibson Partner Round-Up – click here to read our methodology](#)

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✔ The Specialist Partner Team



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